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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Lebanon/Jordan

SUBJECT Reactions of Jordan and Lebanon
to the Palestine Question.

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1. In spite of the outward impression of unanimity, the meeting of the political committee of the Arab League on 26 to 28 Dec 53, occasioned by Jordan, was divided by strong differences of opinion. Jordan's Foreign Minister, Hussein Khalidi, refused to take part in the meeting because the Palestine question has not been handled by the Arab League in a manner corresponding to the political necessities of Jordan.
2. The special position of Hashimite Jordan in the Palestine question induced Lebanon to become more pliable in the matter of Israel. The way to this possible reorientation, which simultaneously is supposed to open the way to a Western alliance, leads through the intentional emphasizing of the "Christian" character of the Lebanese Republic. The Grand Mufti Husseini was informed some time ago of this "danger" (in the Arab sense). His interview with Prime Minister Abdullah Yafi was concerned with this question. Yafi advised that he lay claim to the same freedom and opportunity for Lebanon in the Palestine question as was approved for Jordan in the same connection.

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